

SOME
A C C O U N T
O F T H E
L I F E A N D D E A T H
O F
NICOLAS MOONEY.



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SOME ACCOUNT, &c.

1.  Thought it necessary to give a particular account of myself; and this I do, not to satisfy the curious part of mankind, but to stir up all men to repent, and believe in *Jesus Christ*; to shew that I readily own the justice of the sentence pass'd upon me, and above all, to magnify the wisdom, justice, and mercy of almighty God, who has made a notorious offender a public example to the world, and at the same time a happy monument of his amazing love and free grace to *the worst of sinners*.

2. Whatever other names I have at any other times taken upon myself, my real name is *Nicola Mooney*. My father, *John Mooney*, who kept a large dairy-farm, and was besides a master-gardener, lived in good credit at Regar, near Refarman, within two miles of Dublin, in the kingdom of Ireland, where I was born, July 10, 1721. My father was of the Roman Catholick Profession; and in the principles of that church I was brought up; but I knew nothing of experimental religion, nor considered, that christianity implied something more than being born within the pale of the church, embracing a set of notions, and performing a few external duties.

3. I lived at home with my Father, 'till I was about fifteen years of age; in the mean time I was put to school, and had the benefit of a tolerable education. About sixteen I was put apprentice to

one Andrew Muckleworth, a paper-maker, at Glasneven, one mile from Dublin. While I was here, I sometimes went to church ; for I had taken a dislike to the Roman-catholic profession, and now, glory be to God, I have utterly renounced it, and hope to die a *living* member of that part of *Christ's* mystical body, called *The Church of ENGLAND*. Once at church I felt the motions of God's Spirit upon my soul ; but they soon vanished away, and I still continued dead in the midst of life. After I had served near a year of my time, a quarrel happened between me and one William Roney, a journeyman that worked for my master, whom I almost killed by giving him a violent blow on the head with a stone. This brought upon me the dislike of my master and mistress, which I was impatient to bear : whereupon I packed up my clothes, together with a prayer-book that belonged to my master's daughter ; the *whole duty of man*, and a pair of stockings that were my master's, and ran away by night to Drogheda, about twenty miles off ; where I was known and entertained by an acquaintance of my father's. This inconsiderate action paved the way for all the after extravagancies of my life.

4. The fear of being apprehended by my master, prevented my staying long at Drogheda : I therefore sold my working clothes, and the books I had purloined, and then embarked for Liverpool in Lancashire. After we were put to sea, a violent storm arose, which detained us at sea some days, expecting every moment to be cast away. The ship was stripped of her masts and rigging, and all were carried off. The swelling of the sea was so great, the sailors were obliged to tie themselves with ropes to the ship, to prevent their being washed overboard. Being driven near the Isle of Man, there was the utmost danger of being lost off Douglas-bay. One signal instance of providence, tho' it does not concern me, I will relate.—A boy who came with some liquor to give the sailors to refresh them, was washed overboard,

board; and afterwards thrown on board again. On the fifth day, the tempest abated :—We then took in a pilot from Douglas, who carried us safe in our shattered vessel into that harbour. Thus by the good providence of God, we escaped: but at the same time, another ship was lost, and all the crew with ten or twelve passengers perished. Oh! what reason have I to bless God; for had I then fell a victim to the raging sea, my sins had sunk me lower than the bottom of the great deep.

5. Not being ready to go with the ship, it sailed without me, and I was left in Douglas, where I stayed three weeks, and then embarked in another ship, and had a fair passage to Liverpool. From thence I proceeded to London, and worked in Kent-street-road as a gardener; (having learned something of that business of my father.) Being of an unsettled disposition, I did not continue long in this situation: And as about this time the Spanish war commenced, I went and offered to ship myself on board a Man of War, but the officer refused to enter me, being a land-man; however, they impressed me, put me on board the tender, and sent me round to Spithead, where I was put on board the Pearl man of war, of 40 guns, and entered by the name of *Nicolas Davis*. My reason for altering my name was, to prevent a discovery, if any thing extraordinary should happen to me. From the Pearl I was turned over to the Burford, a 70 gun ship; and from thence to the Elizabeth of 60 guns; from whence I soon after got my discharge. I then determined to return to Ireland, and accordingly set out for Liverpool, and thence set sail for Dublin.

6. When I came to Dublin, I bought myself some clothes, and being genteely apparelled, went home to my parents. My father, that I might be under no apprehensions from my master, bought out the remainder of my apprenticeship. I then went and wrought as a journeyman paper-maker about half a year; after which I removed to Tallow,

about four miles from Dublin, where I worked with the Archbishop of Dublin's gardener, who kept a publick-house. After a short stay here, I returned to Dublin, where I was enlisted by Col. Brigard into Nevil's regiment called the Greens. As I belonged to Major Portow's troop, which then lay at Marysburgh in Queen's County, I was obliged to go thither. There I married a wife of the Roman Catholick persuasion, and was discharged for so doing. I then enlisted myself again into Ld. Tyrawley's regiment; but the news having reached my officer's ear that I had married a Roman Catholick, I was discharged a second time. Upon this, with my wife I went to Dublin, whither my father was then removed, and lived some time with him. My wife proving false to my bed, and having contracted a bad distemper, I determined to cohabit with her no longer. I then hired myself as a covenant servant to Mr. Simpson, who kept a large sugar-house in Cole's lane, Dublin, as his gardener, and sometimes worked in the sugar-house. Here it was that I first got an insight into the art of sugar-baking. After a stay of about three quarters of a year here, I was discharged from my service for staying out all night at a house of ill fame.—A gentle stroke from the hand of God, which might have been a sufficient warning.

7. Being discharged from Mr. *Simpson's* I worked at another sugar-house in Dublin a little while, but neither here could I be content; hurried on by the restlessness of my spirit, I enlisted into Gen. Ligonier's regiment of horse by the name of *Nicolas Moon*. When the recruits had orders to embark for England, in order to proceed for Flanders, my father, solicitous for my welfare, came to me and made me many promises if I would not go. His tears and intreaties would have moved any heart but mine; but I was steeled against all he could say; though within these few days I have felt every endearing word, every kind tear, and tender parting look, as so many daggers to my soul.—However so intent was I upon going,

going, that I would not even stay to drink with him, but left him, my mother, acquaintance, country, took ship, and landed at Park-Gate, near Chester, and from thence proceeded to Gravesend.

8. At Gravesend I again took ship, disembarked at Ostend in Flanders, and repaired to the camp at Berlingham. From hence a party of us being ordered to Bruges, we were intercepted in our march by a party of the French, who lay in ambush in a neighbouring wood, where they had planted some pieces of cannon in order to cut us off. Yet being escorted by a party from the camp at Berlingham, we got safe back thither. The lying in camp did not agree with me; so after I had continued here about half a year, I resolved upon a stratagem to get myself discharged, which was pretending *deafness*, and it succeeded according to my wish: I was discharged as unfit for the service, received the King's bounty-money, which was 21s. and a pass to return to England.—But I went to Holland and bought *tea*, and began to follow the unlawful practice of *smuggling*, hereby defrauding the king of his duty, and injuring the fair trader.

9. After some time I took to work again, and wrought at Mr. Nelson's a sugar-baker near Thames-street, London. I had been here but a short time, before I was discharged on suspicion of a criminal intrigue with a servant maid in the family; but I soon after got a place at Mr. Shoemaker's a sugar-baker in Lemon-street, where I continued some time. From thence I went to Mr. Cooper's in Old Fish-street, where I made love to my master's sister, which coming to his ear, he discharged me from his service, before I had been there quite a year. My mind was then bent upon roving again, and I went and enlisted into Capt. Cunningham's company, in the train of Artillery at Greenwich, by the name of *Nich. Moon*. From thence I went for Scotland, this being the time the Rebellion broke out there; but afterwards I joined the Rebel party, which I at first
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went out to oppose. The occasion was this: A waggon that carried the luggage breaking down near Hexham, I stole from thence a little bundle of the officer's linen. Being discovered, I was secured, and a guard put over me; but finding means to make my escape, and knowing no place of safety, I was easily induced to join the Rebels at Carlisle, taking upon me the name of *John Jones*. How easily does a rash head, and a corrupt conscience, spurred on by ill counsel, make a Rebel!—The Rebels having made themselves masters of Carlisle, left J. Hamilton governor there, with about 300 men. I took horse and leaving Carlisle, went with about 30 Rebels more, to Penrith; and in order to strike a terror into the People, and force them to admit us, we pretended we had 2000 more of our party at hand. This fetch however had no effect upon the townsmen; for, not believing us, they attempted to apprehend us; whereupon we fled with a guide to Lord Lonsdale's of Lowther-hall, which was about four miles off. We had not been here much above two hours before Lord Lonsdale's servant raised the inhabitants of Penrith upon us, who came and surrounded the house. Here I was appointed commander over a guard of ten men, under Charly Boyd, so called, son to the unfortunate Earl of Kilmarnock. I turned out the guard, who were received by the Penrith men with a smart fire. Some of them were killed, and I myself was wounded in the face with small shot, the marks whereof are still visible.—Oh! the riches of the goodness of God, who did not suffer me to fall here, in rebellion against my King, and consequently against my God, seeing—*The powers that be, are ordained of God.*

10. Having made my escape over a wall, I set out for Leek, in Staffordshire, where the *Pretender* then was. I was taken up several times in my way by the King's men, but upon examination I always denied my being of the rebel party, and pretended that they had wounded me, and taken my horse from me,

me, and that I was going after it. When I came to the *Pretender* at Leek, instead of being preferred, as I had no letters of recommendation, I was secured as a spy; for I was known by some there to have been in the English army. From Leek I was taken with the rebels to Derby, where a council of war was held, and it was resolved to retire to Lord Lonsdale's. Here we had another skirmish, and took the Duke of Cumberland's running footman prisoner. From thence we went to Carlisle, I being still a prisoner, where I was released at the instance of Hamilton, and received into favour; and the *Pretender* ordered me ten guineas. All this while I passed for a Yorkshire-man.

11. The *Pretender* was now ready to march for Scotland; and I being asked whether I would continue with my countrymen at Carlisle, or go with him? I chose the latter. Accordingly I went to Dumfries, and in my way took a horse out of a field to ride on: From thence we bent our course towards Hamilton. I then went in company with Capt. Maclaughlan and Mr Saunders, and plundered a house: Among other things, we carried from thence a white horse and some fire-arms, and marched on to Glasgow. Here I entered into Lord *Balmerino's* troop of Life-guards, and bought myself a uniform. From Glasgow we marched to Aberdeen, where I went to a clergyman's house, on the other side of the water, he being deem'd a disaffected person, and took a horse from him, and afterwards went to Bamff, where I took a servant to wait on me, mounted him on the clergyman's horse, and proceeded for Inverness. When I came there, Lord *Balmerino* put me prisoner, for having staid behind my party. Being released, I went into Col. *J. Roy-Stuart's* regiment, where I served as a *cadet*. Honour and preferment was the sum of all my wishes: At length I obtained what I so earnestly sought; for, having enlisted some men for the *Pretender's* service, I was appointed captain over them. I might ob-
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serve here, that we had no commission for our offices, but held them only by bare nomination; and that a captain's pay was no more than 2s 6d *per* day. —Poor pay for such bad work!

12. Being thus preferr'd, I went with Major *Glasgow* to *Keith*, having about a hundred men under our command, to defeat the *Campbell's* clan and the *Duke of Kingston's* light horse. The guard-house here was the church. It was about Twelve o'clock at night when we arrived, the moon shining very bright. We advanced and surprized the guards, who prepared for defence, but we overpower'd them after a short skirmish. One dishonourable action as well as cruelty in me, I will not omit: Having fired at one man and missed him, he held up his hand for quarter, but I should nevertheless have taken his head from his body, had not an officer prevented me. Here were some killed and wounded on both sides; all the rest we took prisoners. Then taking one of the *Duke of Kingston's* horses out of the stable, I rode thereon, and conducted the prisoners to our general rendezvous at *Spey-side*, where we had made some barracks of deal-boards.

13. Being pursued by the English army, we were obliged to leave *Spey-side*, and fled to *Inverness*, near which place, on the 16th of April, 1746, happened the decisive battle at *Culloden-moor*: In this battle I was a captain in the front-line of *Col. John Roy-Stuart's* regiment of Scots. Let me not here forget the signal hand of providence over me, when my life was in such imminent danger. In the heat of the engagement many were cut off on every side, and an officer who stood next me on my left hand had his leg shot off: And when I was obliged to take to flight, seeing at a distance two officers, whom I imagined to be Frenchmen belonging to *Fitz-James's* horse, I went up to them, and found it to be an English officer, who had taken one of *Fitz-James's* officers prisoner. The English officer having a blunderbuss,

derbuss in his hand, immediately demanded my arms, which I surrendered, being a Highland broad sword and a pistol. My fusil I had thrown away in my flight. I then took to my heels, being determined to die in flight rather than be taken prisoner. He called to me to surrender, and told me he would use me like a gentleman; but I held on my course; whereupon he snapped his blunderbuss at me, but missed me, and I made my escape to Inverness.

44. From Inverness I made on to Fort-William, and throwing off my plaid, I disguised myself in a mean habit, and proceeded towards England. In my way I met with a drover, who was driving cattle to London: I joined myself to him, and complaining that I was a poor man, he took me to help him to drive his cattle, which I did as far as Carlisle. Being recommended here by the drover to Justice Gilpin, I obtained a pass, that I might travel unmolested. I then went off to York-road, about fourteen miles from York, where I personated a Doctor, and took up my quarters at a noted inn: But on account of my dress, I was suspected for a counterfeit, and was therefore, notwithstanding the character I had assumed, and all I could say to excuse my habit, taken prisoner, and confined in an empty house alone: but in the night, by means of an iron pin I found in the wall, I pulled up the floor under the door, and got me out; and with many weary steps, and thro' many difficulties, escaped safe to London.

15. As soon as I came to London, I went to Newgate, to see Capt. Hamilton, who was now a prisoner there. From him I received instructions to go to Hague, in order to get a pass to France. Leaving London, I went and took ship for Hague; but when I got there, notwithstanding my instructions, and a note I had received from Capt. Hamilton, I could obtain no pass; wherefore I set out for France without it, and got safe to Paris. Here I met with certain of the rebel officers, one of whom gave me a suit of laced clothes, and I had between two
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and three hundred livres paid me out of the bank. I was then introduced to the Duke of Perth, who promised me that I should be a first lieutenant of the grenadiers, and according to custom complimented me, as they term it, with a laced hat. With him I went to St. Omers, where his regiment lay. He told me there were several gentlemen expected soon from Scotland, and when they arrived we should receive our commissions all together, and till then I was to serve as a *cadet*. While I was waiting here, it happened that I was playing at billiards with Capt. Mackenzie: Both of us were drunk; a quarrel ensued between us; whereupon he drew his Highland Sword, and gave me therewith a terrible wound in my head, the mark whereof I bear to this day; giving me a second blow, he cut off the fourth finger of my left-hand, which fell to the ground. Notwithstanding this provocation, and my own natural undaunted and furious temper, I had not power now even to draw my sword. How soon can God strip a man of all his boasted courage, and make the man that would dare Goliath fall before a stripling! A French officer interposing, prevented any further mischief. For this quarrel we were both disgraced; and I was carried to the hospital to be cured of my wounds. In my illness here, a priest came to me to administer the sacrament, which he did. When he urged me to confession, I made so little discovery of my past life to him, that no doubt he took me for a very good Christian, (God be merciful to me!) at the same time I was the chief of sinners.

16. Being recovered of my wounds, I went to Paris again, where the Pretender then was, and was ordered more money, which was paid me at three payments. I believe, what I received in the whole amounted to eight or ten, or it might be twelve hundred livres. He offered me likewise a lieutenancy in Ogilvy's regiment, but I refused it, having been advised to go to Spain, where there lay open a sure way to greater preferment. Accordingly I set out for

for Spain, with letters of recommendation in my pocket from the Pretender's Brother Henry, whom they called the Duke of York, to Col. Macdonald, with one Mr. Cronyn, a relation to Major Gen. Cronyn in Barcelona, and an old companion of mine, whom I recommended to the Pretender's court at Paris. In our way to Spain we went to Montpellier, where we called on the young Duke of Berwick and Lieut. Gen. Wall, who gave us seven quadruples, and also further letters of recommendation to Col. Macdonald, with a request that he would prefer us both, as soon as possible. We then set out for Barcelona, where the Colonel's regiment lay. At our arrival here, the Col. received us kindly, and we served as Cadets under him, and kept, what the World calls, the best company in the place.

17. Who would trust a *wicked* companion? He is ever *treacherous*, and when it will serve his own purpose, is ready to give up the *credit*, yea, even the *life* of his friend. The Grace of God alone is the *lasting* cement of faithful hearts,—I had here the promise of the first preferment. This highly displeased my companion; and in order to make his way over my head, he *maliciously* accused me of stealing the officer's linen at Hexham in England; and I as *revengefully* and *falsely* accused him again of endeavouring to persuade me to *rob* on the highway: so we were both believed, and both disgraced, and left in a strange country to shift for ourselves.

18. You will easily imagine that all this while I gave up myself to all those vices, for which the soldiery in general are so notoriously infamous. But notwithstanding the impious life I led, the Spirit of God had not quite forsaken me. Though I had grieved him times without number, he did not utterly depart from me, but oftentimes strove with me. My conscience was roused with the alarming voice of God, and I heard the accuser in my own breast. This sometimes made me think of breaking off my

evil course of life, and I would set about a reformation. Divers times did I in a formal manner repent and sin, and repent, and sin again: And when I have happened in company where religious people have been discoursing, I have made vows and resolutions of a new life, and afterwards wrote them down in a book that I might not forget them. But alas! what are man's best resolutions when he does not look to God for his gracious assistance! After all this I grew worse and worse, and drank in iniquity like water, rushing headlong down the broad way to destruction, 'till I had so far grieved the Spirit of God as to cause him to depart from me. Oh! what mercy was it that ever he vouchsafed to give me another call! Oh let every soul beware how they quench the convictions of God's Spirit in their own breast! God hath said,—*My Spirit shall not always strive with man.* Hear that word, and be warned.

19. Upon my disgrace I went to Sallo, and embark'd in a Dutch ship bound for England, and was impress'd by the Grand Turk, a 20 gun ship, and carried into Plymouth-sound. It being understood that I had some skill in military affairs, I had the office of *Master of arms*, which I was glad enough of, not merely for the sake of the office, but because I thought it would give me an opportunity of getting away the easier. Going ashore at Plymouth, in order to take up some men that had run away, I ran away myself; and was glad I could so make my escape, without receiving any pay. I then pursued my way to Exeter, where I got acquainted with a shopkeeper's daughter, to whom I pretended love, and having ingratiated myself into her favour, I borrowed money of her, and then set out in order to go to London. But first I swore I would return and marry her.

20. In my way to London, I met with an honest, virtuous young woman, whose father was a farmer of good circumstances in Wiltshire. I cast my vulture's eye upon her, as a destined prey. I attired my-

myself in a gay manner, and, in the appearance of a gentleman, paid my addresses to her, making her believe I was a man of fortune, and by this and other devilish artifices I gained her consent to be married. We went together to London, where I took her to the Fleet and married her. I had one child by her, which dying unbaptized, though I was such an abandon'd wretch, gave me no little concern. —How cautious ought every young woman to be, what company she goes into, especially with whom she contracts a familiarity! What calamities have young people brought upon their friends, what misery and distress upon themselves, by giving too easy credit to appearances!

21. After I had spent what money I had with this wife, I applied myself to work at gardening again: but my income not being sufficient to support my extravagancies, I took to coining half crowns and shillings in moulds of my own making. I had not followed this practice long before I was overheard by some in the house as I was at work, who suspected what I was doing, and threatened to inform against me, whereupon I threw away my moulds and left off coining. But my leaving off one vice was but to make way for another.

22. I now resolv'd to take to the *high-way*; accordingly I equipp'd myself with a brace of pistols, and set out. The first I robbed was a gentleman going to Deptford. Then I robbed a man and his wife at Hyde-Park corner: The woman's pocket I snatched from her side. After this I got me two accomplices, and we committed a great many robberies in and about London. Among the many other, we set upon a gentleman belonging to the Playhouse, near a Watch-house in London. One kept the watchman in the house, while the other two committed the robbery. The gentleman had his sword drawn in his hand, with which he stabbed me in the side: however I got his sword from him, and made off with it. Soon after I was taken up for

this robbery and carried before a magistrate, who committed me to Clerkenwell Bridewell. As soon as I was apprehended I sent word to my accomplices to make their escape; and as soon as I found they had absconded, in order to get myself off, I sent word that I would impeach my accomplices, which I accordingly did, and moreover made information against three *innocent* men, two of whom were thereupon apprehended and committed; one to Newgate, and the other to Clerkenwell Bridewell; but afterwards, no other evidence appearing against them but *me*, they were discharged. At the next Sessions of the Old-bailey I was tried and condemned to die by my right name of *Nicolas Mooney*. But oh! the *hardness* of my heart! how little did I think of *Death* and a *future State*! The name of God was never in my heart, tho' it often came out of my mouth in *blasphemy*. And so far was I from making any preparation for another life, that I kept sinning on, as if I had meant to *pull down* damnation on my own head, before the day of vengeance was come.

23. My carelessness at this time was in a great measure owing to the expectation I had of a reprieve: Of this I seemed almost confident, my wife, who shewed herself a *true* friend to me in the time of *necessity*, notwithstanding my *business* to her, assuring me, that I should *not* die. I was respited several times. At last Justice Fielding's brother came to me a few days before the day of execution, and desired me to tell him *ingenuously* and *truly*, whether those *three* men I had impeached were guilty? I confidently affirmed they *were*; tho' I knew it to be false. I pray God make them amends for the wrong I did them, seeing I cannot.—After this Mr. F——g became my friend, and thro' his and the favour of Sir J. L——r, a pardon was procured for me; though before I had my reprieve, the drums were beating, and the guards and cart at the prison door, to have me to execution; which news being told me, gave me no concern at all: Not *then* because I knew that death to me would be the pleasing passage

sage to a life of endless happiness, but because of the *stupidity* of my conscience, and the dependence I had upon the interest of my friends. But neither did the goodness of God to me stop here, for with my *life*, I had my *liberty* granted to me immediately, by means of two worthy gentlemen, who gave each 40l. bail for my appearance at the next Sessions.—Ungrateful wretch I, who made so *bad* a use of so *great* favours.

24. When I had gotten my liberty, I waited on Gen. L——r, to return him thanks for his favour, who gave me a guinea. I then took to work again at gardening, and had a very good place: but it happened, after I had been there some time, that being drinking in a publick house with my master's brother, a quarrel broke out in the company between another man and me, and I, as concerned in the *riot*, was sent to the New-Goal, Southwark. From hence I was carried to Guilford-goal, and after some time released.

During the time I was under confinement at Guilford, I contracted an acquaintance with two poor creatures, like myself: With these I agreed, that if we were acquitted, we would all take to the *high-way* together; and we did not fail of our word, many were the robberies we committed in and about London. I was at last wounded in attempting to rob a gentleman near the Half-way house going to Kensington. One of my accomplices was taken and afterwards hanged. Upon his impeachment (oh! what a rope of *sand* is the confederacy of the wicked!) my other companion and I were forced to fly. I bent my course to the West, having first bought me a very long knife, either to defend myself, or rob withal, and got to Salisbury, disguised in a sailor's habit. There I became acquainted with one who was formerly a carpenter in the French service. With him I set out for Exeter, and on the road ask'd him to rob a gentleman, but he was afraid, and would not consent. When we came to Exeter, he

made information against me for advising him to rob, and moreover took an oath, that I was an *outlawed smuggler*; whereupon I was apprehended and committed to prison. On my examination I swore, that my name was *J. Jackson*, and that I was born at Prescot in Lancashire. This is the only time that I ever got any advantage by changing my name; but now it stood me in stead, for by this means I got clear of the charge of *outlawry*, and was also acquitted of the other indictment and set at liberty.

25. Being discharged, I went to Taunton in Somersetshire, and got work at gardening, and at leisure times *painted* pictures, and sold them; for I had made some proficiency in painting and drawing patterns for needle-work. Here I assisted in making a new garden for a gentleman, and by this means got acquainted with several noted gentlemen's gardeners, and by one of them was recommended to Esquire P——rs of Fairfield, near Stoke-gusley, where I lived about three quarters of a year. My outward demeanour here was such as gained me respect, and none suspected what my former life had been, yet all the while my heart was going after its lusts. During my stay here, I contracted an intimacy with a virtuous young woman that was my fellow-servant: and (let me here ask pardon of God and her, which I do from the ground of my heart) I ensnared her affections, and debauched her. After I had lived in sin with her some time, I began to fear, lest she should prove with child, and be brought to disgrace; I therefore resolved to have no more criminal conversation with her; and that I might be afraid to break my resolution, I went the Sunday following to church, and took the Sacrament upon it. Thus, as my day of life was near at an end, the day of God's Grace began to dawn.

26. How weak are the resolves of feeble man, without the *Strength of God*! My *passion* soon grew too strong for my *reason* and *resolution*. I relapsed, and it happened according to my fears; the poor,
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ruined creature proved with child. When I found this, I prepared a potion, and gave her in order to destroy the fruit of her womb. Had I not crimes enough already standing on record against me, but to the rest must I add this act of murder also ! For a *murderer* I was *intentionally*, though my horrid expedient did not succeed.

27. When I found this poor creature still advancing in her pregnancy, I resolved to leave my place. I communicated to her my intention of going away, and, to make her easy, swore I would return and marry her. I had lately received half a year's wages, and with that I set out for Bristol, and got work there at Mess. Hillhouse and Stevens's sugar-house, where I wrought some time, and was well-beloved, tho' I so ill deserved it. Here it was I became acquainted with my unhappy companion and fellow-sufferer, *John Jones*. It happened that *Jones* fell into company with one that was a noted Boxer, who challenged him to box him, which challenge *Jones* accepted. He afterwards came and acquainted me with the affair, and desired me to second him. I refused, saying, I did not like fighting upon a stage, it exposed a man so much: " But (added I) if you want money, go upon the highway." He urged, that we had no pistols. I told him, I could rob any man with a stick, and bid him not fear, saying, I am a stout man, and so are you : Who can take us ? We shall soon fill our pockets, and then we may buy pistols and horses too. Bristol is much better than London for robbing, and, as it is the fair-time, I don't question getting two or three hundred pounds before it is over." But he was still unwilling to go without pistols, so we concluded to buy a brace ; and at length he consented.—*LORD, lay not this sin to my charge !*

28. At our first setting out, we met with Alderman Rich's son, in Magdalen-lane, near his father's house : I proposed robbing him ; but *Jones* objected, there being a woman near : I said, I feared no-
body,

body, and accordingly attack'd him; and robbed him of a Pinchbeck-watch, a 36 s. piece, a moidore, and some silver. As I was robbing him, he dropt his cane or stick, which I picked up and gave him. I likewise asked him where he lived, and on his telling me at Mile-hill, I bid him go home and say nothing, for if he did, I would blow his brains out. We went from thence to Queen's-Square the same night; and robbed Mr. Sheirclift of his watch and money; after which I was going to rob a gentleman in the square, at his own door, though *Jones* perswaded me to the contrary; but before I could lay hold of him, the door was opened, and he went in and escaped my hands. The next day we went to Durham-down, and attacked Mr. Wasborough of Henbury, who struck me on the head with the butt-end of his whip, and wounded me, whereupon I fired at him: The ball went through his great coat, but happily did him no further harm, for which I can never sufficiently thank God. I went then to a pond, and washed the blood off my face, and then we rode off for Bristol, and went to *Jones's* lodging, where, after I had washed my face again, and gotten a plaister for my head, I proposed to go out again on foot; but *Jones* absolutely refused, saying he was ill. However, I was resolute, and swore I would have some money that night (so was I hurried on by the devil!) and accordingly went by myself to College-Green, and robbed a gentleman of a mourning-ring and seven shillings. When I had done, I returned to *Jones's* lodging, and gave him half the money, leaving my pistols with him. I then went to the Bell in Broad-street to enquire for lodging. Being asked from whence I came, I immediately replied, from Westbury; not in the least imagining I could be suspected from that circumstance. But God is wise, and here he meant to stop me short in my career. I was suspected to be the person who attacked Mr. Wasborough on the Down, and more so from a drop of blood that was left on my face, notwithstanding I had washed it twice.

twice.—By what small means can God bring great matters to light, when he sees proper, when at other times much stronger circumstances escape unobserved.—To put an end to all doubt, while I was here Mr. Wasborough himself came in, who had been searching after me, and charged me with the robbery. Being searched, and powder and ball found upon me, I was then committed to Bridewell, where, being searched again, there was found upon me Mr. Sheirclyst's watch, the mourning-ring, and the 36 s. piece. Seeing no possibility of getting clear of the charge, I thought I had better declare the whole of the matter, and accordingly I impeached poor *Jones*, who was taken the next morning in bed, with the pistols at his bed-side, and Mr. Rich's watch in his pocket. We were afterwards both examined before the Mayor of Bristol, and by him committed to Newgate.—I should here observe the reason why the things could not be found upon me the first time I was searched; they were concealed in a private pocket, many of which every common highwayman has about his cloathes.

29. From this short narrative the world may in some measure conceive what a continued course of *villainy* and *wickedness* my whole life has been.—Innumerable acts of *Drunkenness*, *Rioting*, *Disobedience to Parents*, *Blasphemy*, *Perjury*, *Lying*, *Theft*, *Injustice*, *Revenge*, *Rebellion*, *Murder*, *Treason*, *Fornication*, *Adultery*, *Bigamy*, *Impiety*, *Ingratitude*, *Sabbath-breaking*, *Gaming*, and of every other vice, have crowded the short space of my evil *thirty* years. They may see how *indefatigable* I have been, compassing sea and land, running all hazards, and daring every danger, to *serve the devil*, and, without a miracle of grace, to make my own *damnation* sure:—In all my dangers, how *hardened* and *unconcerned*; in all my deliverances how *unthankful* to my great preserver; and in all my villainies and impieties, how *shameless* *stubborn* and *remorseless*! And now must not every man that thinks at all, be astonished that such a *Caitiff* should live upon the earth, and every good
man

man adore the wonderful goodness of God, who hath spared such a *monster* of iniquity to make him a *happy* example of his *amazing* love and *free* mercy to *undeserving* sinners!—Of his great goodness towards me in bringing me to a sense of myself, and his love to me in *Christ Jesus*, I shall now give some account, to the glory of his grace.—I am sensible how ready the giddy, thoughtless part of mankind are to *ridiculous* things of this nature: but whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, I will, in simplicity and the fear of God, declare what He hath done for *my* soul: and I pray God it may be blessed to the *converting* or *strengthening* of every one that shall hear thereof!

30. When I was committed to prison, I was very heavily iron'd and closely confined in the condemn'd room, it being apprehended, that I being a stout, sturdy, resolute person, might find means to make my escape. Surely the all-wise Providence of God over-ruled in all this affair: For had I robbed Mr. *Walsborough*, I must have taken my trial at Gloucester, where I had in all probability been destitute of such spiritual helps: as I have met with at Bristol: This and my being so closely confined here, is such an Instance of God's *peculiar* care over me, as I shall have reason to praise him for to all eternity. Hereby I had the opportunity of reflecting on my past misconduct, and the conversation of some religious friends, uninterrupted by the rest of the prisoners. Indeed it was many weeks after my imprisonment that I came to any serious reflection: for though I had some *sudden* fears of death started up in my mind, attended with some slender *remorse* of conscience, yet they were not lasting, partly through the natural hardness of my heart, and partly through my quenching those motions of God's Spirit. Nevertheless, *Jesus Christ* the good shepherd, who came to seek and save the lost sheep, still pursued me, tho' I ran from him, and I was often alarmed with this thought, Lord! what will become of my soul?—I am a dying man, and have made no preparations for
another

another world. Such alarms would startle me and stir me up to prayer ; but when I began to pray, the devil would persuade me I was such a sinner, that it was impossible there could be mercy for me, and it was therefore in vain for me to pray : and believing these suggestions, I would sometimes put off all thoughts of returning to God.

31. Thus went I on a while, sometimes willing to return to God, if I thought there were hopes of being accepted; sometimes concluding there were not, determined to make the most I could of the little time I had. But on *Easter-Tuesday, March 31*, as soon as I arose, I was so terrified in my conscience I could get no rest. I knew not what to do. I longed for some good Christian to advise me, but knew not whom to send to. The agonies of my mind increasing more and more, I thought to ease myself by reading a little : accordingly I took up the Common-Prayer-book, in which I read, and sometimes prayed on my knees, (the prisoners that lay in the room with me being all gone out.) While I was in this distress of soul, and as I was reading, according to my wish, a woman came to the window, saying, *My friend, I am glad to see you so well employed; I am not come to look at you, but to speak to you for the good of your soul.* She had not spoken many words more, before I was cut to the heart, and had I not given way to my distress by a flood of tears, my heart must have burst. As soon as I was able to answer her, I could not forbear crying out, “ I am the vilest sinner upon earth ; I have been guilty of all manner of wickedness.” She told me, if I felt the burden of sin, I was the very person for whom *Christ* died ; at which good news I was a little refreshed, and for that time she left me. After this she came to me every day, with others that had like care for my soul, and gave me such advice, as they saw I stood in need of, and sang hymns suitable to my condition, and join’d in fervent prayer for me, and directed me to proper portions of Scripture.— All this time the conviction of my lost state sank deeper

deeper and deeper into my soul, and I made an open confession of such crimes as would have touched my life, if the fact I was committed for had not. On Friday, April 3. two christian friends coming into my room, at a seasonable time, (for I was in the utmost distress) I desired them to pray with me :— As we were singing a hymn, I began to tremble under a deep sense of the wrath of God. I was all over in a cold sweat ; every nerve in my body seemed to be unstrung, and I interrupted them, crying out, “ Oh ! what a sinner am I !—I have no need of any other trial ; I am guilty ; I have enough within me to condemn me, and when I come before the Judge, I will plead *guilty*, for I dare not tell a *lie*.” Oh ! what terrors of conscience did I undergo for five days together ? Such as no tongue can utter nor pen express. Yet amidst all, I was at times supported by a small gleam of distant hope. Glory be to God ! who laid no more upon me, than I was able to bear.

32. How vigilant is the devil over the souls of men to destroy them ! While I was rushing on in the broad way to eternal perdition, I never concerned myself about the Scriptures, whether they were true or false ; but as soon as I began to read and search them, immediately he began to assault me with his fiery darts. As I was reading in the *Common Prayer Book*, he suggested to me, *How do you know what you read is true ?* I thought, *surely it was true, for they were good men that made the book, and it was taken out of the scriptures.* He retorted upon me, *How do you know the Scriptures are true ?* God here gave me to know the voice of the tempter, and I replied, *Get thee behind me, Satan ; for it is God's word, and I will believe it.* But neither yet did he leave me ; for afterwards he took another method, persuading me it was time enough for me to repent after sentence, or two or three days before my execution. But I repelled him saying, *Be gone, Satan, for I have been thy servant too long ; I will serve thee no longer.*

33. On Saturday night, the 4th of April, my conscience was so alarmed as I lay in bed, that my sleep departed from me, and I was seized with inexpressible horror. I felt a perfect hell in my soul. I was all over in a sweat with terror. I trembled to that degree that I shook the bed under me: I roared for the very disquietude of my heart. At last, being no longer able to contain myself, I broke out, *I am lost and damned forever.* I sat up, and waked all the prisoners in the room, and desired them to join in Prayer for me, which they did: (May God reward them, and shew mercy upon them all!) In this condition I continued all the rest of the night.

On Sunday morning, as soon as it was day, I rose and went to prayer, but saw no manner of hope. I continued restless, miserable, and despairing, till about noon, when, concluding myself past all hopes of mercy, I thought, seeing I must perish, I will resign myself wholly up to the will of God. But nevertheless, as I was to die, I thought I would learn a form of prayer, wherein to commend my soul into the hands of God at the place of execution; and accordingly I began to read the dying petitions of Thomas Sayage, which were these; Lord Jesus receive my spirit! Lord, *one smile.* Good Lord, *one word of comfort for Christ's sake.* *Tho' death makes a separation between my soul and body, let nothing separate between Thee and my soul to all eternity.* As I read and pondered on these words, I found hope springing up in me, that God had still a love for me, and would receive my soul. I believed, and in a moment all my distress was taken away. The load of guilt was removed, and I was filled with inexpressible joy. I no longer feared death; I loved God, and I longed to be with him. Had the cart come that day to take me to execution, I should have gone with infinite pleasure. In the transport of my mind I cried out, God hath forgiven me all my sins; He hath given me his Holy Spirit in my heart, and I am quite easy. Oh! what a change is here wrought in five days! I that could so lately murder a man

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for his money, could now give away all that I have. I then, with a willing heart and hand, distributed the little money I had among my fellow-prisoners; which I mention, not boastingly, but to magnify the grace of God, which inclined my heart not only to do this, but ten thousand times more for his sake, had it been in my power.

34. This excess of joy continued with me for some time; at length I found a sweet calm peace sink down into my soul. My passions were allayed, my heart was changed, and I abhorred my former course of life. For this amazing grace, *Not unto me, O Lord, not unto me, but unto thy name be the Praise;—for not by works of righteousness which I had done [O God thou knowest] but according to thy mercy thou hast saved me, by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost.*

“ Of Him that did salvation bring,

“ I could forever think and sing:

“ Arise ye guilty, he'll forgive;

“ Arise ye needy, he'll relieve.

“ Ask but his grace, and lo! 'tis given;

“ Ask, and he turns your hell to heav'n.

“ Tho' sin and sorrow pierc'd my soul,

“ Thy balm, O Jesu! made it whole.

35. After, by the grace of God, this blessed change was wrought in me, upon hearing one of the prisoners swear, his word seemed like thunder in my ear, and I was thrown into such an agony, for grief, to hear the name of God blasphemed, that I fell down on the floor, and all my flesh seemed to be parting from my bones; so bitter was sin to me now, in which I lately took so great delight. And whenever I see any wanton behaviour among the men and women prisoners, I am filled with such abhorrence as I am not able to express. And perhaps in this thing I ran to an extreme; but so it is, I can hardly bear the sight of a woman, unless I know them to be such as fear God. I would now have given any thing in the world to recall the letters I
sent

sent, in order to petition for a reprieve, not only because I would not now live, but as being heartily sorry I should thus endeavour to impose upon the goodness of such worthy persons.—Yet, that I might not presume, the evening before my trial, I was shewn my own weakness, and how unable I was of myself to maintain that grace I had received; and that Jesus, who is the *Author*, is likewise the *Continuer*, as well as *Finisher* of faith. As I was talking with one of some temporal concerns, I found a mist come over my soul, and the presence of God was somewhat hid from me. I desired my friend to leave me immediately, for I was in a great agony. Being left alone, I fell on my knees before God, and with strong crying and tears made supplication to him, till he restored to me the light of his countenance, which he did in about half an hour.

36. On Friday, April 10. the trumpet gave its solemn, pleasing sound, to call me and the rest of my fellow criminals, to the bar of justice. It was to me as a welcome voice from heaven, and it filled my heart with joy to think I should shortly be there. When I was put to the bar, knowing myself worthy of more than one death, I determined, as I had done before, to give the court no trouble, but to plead guilty, and addressed the Judge nearly in this manner:

My Lord,

I Am called by the name of Jackson, but I desire to be indicted by the name of Nicolas Mooney, for the other is a fictitious name. And my Lord, I beg I may have the liberty of speaking a few words before I am arraigned, to let your Lordship know, That I am the man who have drawn Jones into these unhappy circumstances, and hope your Lordship will therefore shew him favour. My Lord, I have been arraigned for my life before at the Old Bailey, and was convicted; and the cart came to the door to take me to execution; but I was reprieved. I then depended altogether upon the favour of friends; but now I rely only upon God. Had I died then, I had gone to hell, and been damned to all eternity;

but now I am snatched as a brand from the burning, and my sentence will be pleasing. His Lordship then asked me: If I did not expect mercy, by pleading Guilty. I replied, No, my Lord, I expect no mercy from man on this side the grave, The Lord is on my side, I do not fear what man can do unto me. I desire to die, for I have not only committed many robberies, but have been a rebel, and fought against my King and Country. His Majesty's clemency to me I have abused. 'Till within these few days, I neither knew what it was to fear or love God, but now I know both, and I know that God is reconciled to me, and has forgiven me all my sins, and I am content to die.

37. The next day I was called to the bar again, to receive sentence of death; which I did with the utmost calmness, my soul being kept all the time in sweet peace and full of love. I here again addressed his Lordship much to this purpose;

My Lord,

Permit me again to intreat for John Jones, whom I have drawn into this trouble.—As for my own part, I have committed many robberies, and been a Rebel against my King, and have wronged my Country by coining money, for which I can never make the publick restitution; therefore I am content to die as I deserve.—And I pray God to bless every one to whom I have done any wrong. And if there be any gentlemen of Bristol here, whom I have injured, I heartily ask them forgiveness, and especially Mr. Wasborough, [he then stood by me] whom I attempted to murder, but God saved him, for which I can never praise him enough.—My Lord, I only desire three Sundays, and then I am willing to launch into eternity. And I hope when I come to the place of execution, that God will open my mouth to warn all to flee their wicked course of life.—I pray God to bless your Lordship and the honourable Court, and the Lord Jesus receive my soul.

38. After condemnation I wrote letters, one to the poor creature who is now with child by me, and another to a gentleman who had been formerly my friend,

friend, part of which, for special reasons, I think proper here to subjoin.

Bristol, April 14, 1752.

“ Dear Nelly,

Righteous is the Lord, and just are his Judgements: His hand hath at last overtaken me: his hand of *Justice* to cut short my life, and his hand of *Mercy* to save my soul. You for one can witness to the justice of my sentence. Were it in my power, I would gladly make you and every one else amends, whom I have ever injured in their *Goods, Persons or Credit*; but seeing it is not, I hereby ask you forgiveness for the wrong I have done you; and I trust that God, to whom I owe this duty first, and you, and every one else, will accept my *willing* mind to make full restitution.

I am too apprehensive what you have to undergo on my account, not to be concerned for you: Oh! that I had sufficiently considered this, before I had brought you into this trouble!—The shame naturally attending your circumstances, the trouble consequent thereon, the flight of friends, the indignity and reproaches of an ill-natured world, are all grievous to be born: but yet I hope that God, who comforts and supports me under my trials, in a manner I am not able to express, will do the same for you. Put your trust in him and you shall never be confounded.

On *Wednesday* Fortnight, or as some tell me, on *Friday* Se’nnight, I am to be delivered out of the miseries of this sinful world. Glory be to God thro’ *Jesus Christ*, He has given *Repentance and Remission* of sins to me the worst of sinners. He has taken away *Sin the sting of Death*, and I am prepared to meet my Saviour and my Judge. Let my example encourage every sinner to break off his sins and come unto God thro’ *Jesus Christ*, pleading nothing but his merits and their own guilt, and he will freely forgive them: But let none presume on the long-suffering of God, for he will surely visit their iniquity with a rod, and their sins with scourges.

As a *dying* man I give you this advice : Give yourself up wholly to God, pray to him continually, and never rest till you have secured an interest in the blood of *Jesus Christ*. Live in his fear, and you, as I trust I shall, shall die in his *favour*.—I now commend you to God's grace and almighty protection, and request your earnest prayers for

Your dying Friend and Well-Wisher,

NICOLAS MOONEY."

" Please to communicate these Lines to Mr. B—ht, with my due Respects."

" SIR,

BEfore I die, I take this opportunity of acknowledging your *kindness* to me in time past. Oh! that I had *deserved* it, for then I had not brought myself into *these* unhappy circumstances : But God is *wise*, and seeing I would not hear his voice and leave my *wicked* life, he gave me up to my *own heart's lust*, and permitted me to *fill up the measure of mine iniquity*, that in me at last might be shewn the *severity* of his *justice*, and *riches* of his *mercy*. You took me, the most abandoned wretch, for an honest man ; and as such you *kindly* and *generously* recommended me where I might have done well. It is my own fault I did not. On *Friday* Se'nnight I am to meet the fate my crimes have *justly* deserved. I deserve not only *death* but *hell* : To the former, man hath doomed me ; from the latter *Christ* will save me. Of this I have such a firm hope in myself, being assured that God is reconciled to me, (Oh! the riches of his mercy in *Christ Jesus*) that my *prison* is a *palace*, my *chains* are as *ornaments*, and I am quite *happy*. I hope every one will pray for me that my *faith* fail not.

I am, *longing* for Death, and in *firm Expectation* of a *glorious* Resurrection to eternal Life,

Your much obliged

Bristol, April 14.

and dying Servant,

1757.

NICOLAS MOONEY.

39. About eight days before I was to be executed, one came to me and told me, a clergyman of the Romish church would willingly attend upon me, if I chose it. I told him, I did not chuse it; for having renounced the errors of that corrupt church, and experienced the truth as it is in Jesus, I will die a member of the church of England.

40. A day or two after, I ordered my coffin and shroud to be made, that I might have them in my room some time before I died, that I might this way try my faith, and see how firmly I could bear the sight of this shrine of death. While the coffin-maker was measuring me, I found sweet composure of soul, and a comfortable sense of God's presence; and it was with no little pleasure that I saw this repository of my mouldring relicks brought into the room. This was provided for me at the expence of a friend; and here it is my desire my earthly remains should rest, that the affliction of my relations might not be aggravated by the disposal of them any other way; though rather than an oath should be sworn, a blow struck, or any disturbance made, whereby, God should be offended, after I am dead, I am content to be anatomized, hung in chains, or that my clay should be any way disposed of.

On the Sunday before I was to die, a friend proposed our going in a coach to execution; but I told my fellow-sufferer, As our crimes have been public, let us be public examples: Let us be seen of all, that all may take warning. God will support us. We do not know what good we may do by being exposed in a cart. I had likewise a friendly visit from Mr. Walsborough, and Mr. Sheircliff, which gave me no small satisfaction. And that day I received the blessed sacrament. It was indeed a feast of love, a feast of marrow and fat things. My soul fed on Angels' food, and I ate the bread of heaven. I have been since tried many ways, by some out of love, by others out of strife and contention; but I found that promise of my Saviour true, *The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost—He shall teach you all things*

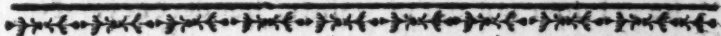
things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. And so it was; for I had Scripture brought to my mind, to strengthen me against those that opposed, which I had read, but perhaps not so much as thought of for many years. On Monday I was again abundantly refreshed at the sacred ordinance. Several times have I received the Sacrament before, but never till I took it here, did I know what it was spiritually to eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood. On Tuesday night, W. Cudmore, who was condemned to die with Jones and me, found means to get off his irons, and had begun to break prison, but was discovered. But had all the prison-doors been set open, here would I have staid to meet the fate my crimes have deserved. Wednesday, I kept a fast to the Lord, took the sacrament, and attended at chapel. It was a day of refreshment from the presence of the LORD. Whoever advises me to the contrary, how can I but be confident of this which I feel in my Soul? Yea, tho' I am hereby branded with enthusiasm and blasphemy, I will, by the Grace of God, hold fast the beginning of my confidence stedfast unto the end; for it hath great recompense of reward; yea, I have already the earnest of my heavenly inheritance. And what should I do but praise God while I have breath, and magnify him on this manner? seeing no ransomed son of Adam has greater reason, and none ought more to invite his fellow-sinners to come unto God by Jesus Christ.

41. I shall now conclude my whole account with observing, that at present I enjoy great peace, amidst all the noise of a prison, the disturbance of impertinent company, and my earthly troubles. When the reverend and worthy ministers that attend me and my fellow-prisoners, or my christian friends that have for some time past assisted me with their spiritual advice, are praying with me, or singing hymns of prayer or praise to Almighty God, I have such a sweet, feeling sense of the presence of God with me, that I am in a manner ravished therewith. May
God

God reward them all a thousand fold, for their kind concern for and watchful care over my soul, and every one else who hath been any ways a minister unto me for good : as such I account the persons who *took me* ; they were messengers sent from God to stop me in the way of perdition, and to place me here, where I might find the way to heaven : I can but smile at my fetters, they are the chains my sins have more than deserved, and I am willing to bear them ; if I could slip them from my legs, I would not : when I think of dying, my spirit is ready to start from my body, to anticipate the glory I expect : I could suffer my flesh to be boiled in oil, for the *Lord Jesus Christ's* Sake : And I believe I shall put the halter about my neck with more pleasure than I put on a clean neck-cloth : And I trust, though *Satan* may tempt, and men *oppose* and *revile*, that *God* will never leave me nor forsake me, but having begun the good work in my soul, will carry it on to perfection, and perform it unto the *end* ; and that from the fatal tree I shall mount up to the regions of eternal bliss, to enjoy the glorious presence of my God and Saviour to all eternity, and with all the company of holy Angels and glorified Spirits, to sing Hallelujahs to God, and the LAMB, that sitteth upon the Throne for ever ! *Amen.*

Newgate, Apr. 23.
1752.

NICOLAS MOONEY.



Some farther Particulars relating to Nicolas Mooney.

THE night before he died, the executioner came into the room, and said, Gentlemen, if you are not willing, I will not perform the office, although I am come : At which Mooney took him by the hand, and said, My Friend, you are a welcome man to me.

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That night six persons sat up in the room, and spent the time till midnight in reading, singing, and solemn prayer. At one the prisoners went to bed, and desired the eighth chapter of the Romans to be read to them, which being done, they went to sleep. At three Mooney arose, and washed himself, saying, "My wedding day is come at last!" Conversed cheerfully with his friends 'till four, and then called up Jones and Cudmore, and all together spent about an hour in devotion. After this, Jones falling into a great agony as he stood at the window, reading in the Bible, retired to the bed, and seemed under so great terrors, that he had fainted, had not timely application been made; at which Mooney clapped his hands, and rejoicing, cried out, "I bless God for this; More of my sort of work; mine began in this manner." When Jones came to himself, Mooney took him by the hand, saying, "Come, my dear Brother Jones, fear not; we shall take our flight above the clouds soon."

One then asked *Jones* how he did? He replied, "My heart is ready to burst; and yet at the same time I find in me such rejoicing as if I had the whole world given to me. I was never so happy in my life."

About 7 o'clock company began to flock in, and Mooney with the utmost cheerfulness testified to all the consolation he felt from God. He then dressed himself in mourning, saying, "I hope this is no sin: I do it not out of vanity, but decency. No, no more of the Devil's works for me."

About 8, his fetters were taken off; at which he said, "Thus hath God taken off the chains of my sins." He continued reading, praying, and speaking to the people 'till he was called to the Sacrament at nine.

Among the rest he spoke earnestly to Dan. Bishop, (who was condemned at the last assizes, but reprieved for transportation;) and put him in mind how he had mispent the time since his respite, and exhorted him to repent, and employ the remainder of his days

to the glory of God. The same he did to the person, at whose swearing he fell into that agony, mentioned above. To him he said, "Don't you remember how you grieved me by your oaths? How much more did you offend God? Oh! for God's sake, repent you of your sins before it is too late! Remember the words of a dying man!" Which made the poor wretch stand trembling and speechless. Sacrament being ended, the executioner entered and put the ropes round the criminals necks, at which Mooney said, "Welcome halter! My case is all most like that of the thief on the cross." They all went to execution without their hats, and were raised aloft in the cart on seats made on purpose.

There were some who yet doubted of his sincerity; others said, that it was all delusion, and that they should see a great alteration before he died. He replied, "I am only afraid I shall offend some, who being ignorant of what I feel, will think I die hardened; for I verily believe I shall smile at the sight of the gallows. Two friends were allowed to go with them in the cart: To one of them Mooney said, "I am almost unwilling to part with you; I could wish you were to go to Heaven with me, *but not this way.*—Only I am the more willing to part with you, for a little time, that you may bring more such rebels as me to God: May he reward you for what you have done for me. In a little time I shall, *I know I shall*, meet you in Paradise."—When he saw the gallows, he smiled, saying, "Welcome gallows, I have deserved thee many years."

When they drew up to the gallows, as the officers were beating off the croud, some of them swore several oaths, at which Mooney said, "It cuts me to the heart to hear God offended in this manner. Oh! Mr. Jones, what a wicked world we are in, where they are always rebelling against so good a God!" Then lifting up his hands and eyes to Heaven, he said, "Blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ, we are going to leave it! Does not your heart rejoice

at

at it?" Jones answered with a smile, "I am glad at my heart the time is so near. I would not have a reprieve for all the world. I was never so happy in my life, as I am just now." Being asked what was the ground of his happiness, he replied, "The thoughts of God's forgiving me my sins." At the place of execution, they all joined the minister in singing and prayer; which done, Mooney earnestly exhorted all to take warning by him.—He then gave this printed narrative of his life to the sheriff, and said, "This was revised by me last night, and "it contains nothing but the truth, and it is my "desire it should be dispersed abroad as much as "possible, to shew my wickedness and God's goodness, who has forgiven me all my sins." He then added, O Sir, I cannot express the happiness I feel. There is more pleasure in serving God one hour, than in a long life of sin. Oh! what hath he done for so vile a sinner! I know Christ died for me, and the moment the breath is out of my body, my soul will be in heaven. I can from my heart triumph with the Apostle, and say, "O Death, where is thy sting; O Grave, where is thy victory?" As the executioner was preparing to tie up Jones, he cried out, "Tie *me* up first; for I am the greatest offender;" desiring that no one would pull his legs, for that he was willing to suffer *all the pains of death*.—The rope being fixed, he cried out, "My soul "is so full of the love of God, that it is ready to "start out of my body; and in a few moments I "shall be at my Father's house." The cart being drawn away, he launched into a happy eternity. It is remarkable, that he never stirred hand or foot, after he was turned off; but his soul seemed to have willingly taken its flight, before it was forced from the body.

His corps was conveyed in a hearse from the place of execution to a friend's house in Temple-street, from whence it was interred the Sunday following in Temple-church-yard, in the presence of several thousand people.

